## **God Introduces Himself**

Exodus 33:12 - 34:7

God has given Moses a huge responsibility:

to share in leading His people through a vast wilderness and forming them into a nation,

indeed, into the people of God.

At a particularly stressful point in their journey,

Moses feels the deep need

to know God better and

to be assured of His continuing presence.

So Moses prays:

"Let me know Your ways that I may know You" and "Show me Your glory!" (Exodus 33:13, 18, NASB)

## God responds:

""I Myself will make all My goodness pass before you, and will proclaim the name of the Lord before you;...You cannot see My face, for mankind shall not see Me and live!" Then the Lord said, "Behold, there is a place by Me, and you shall stand there on the rock; and it will come about, while My glory is passing by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock and cover you with My hand until I have passed by. Then I will take My hand away and you shall see My back, but My face shall not be seen." (Exodus 33:19-23, NASB)

God does as He promised, and as He does.

He describes Himself in a few words.

So how does God summarize Himself?

Then the Lord passed by in front of him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord God, compassionate and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in faithfulness and truth; who keeps faithfulness for thousands, who forgives wrongdoing, violation of His Law, and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, inflicting the punishment of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations." (Exodus 34:6-7,NASB)

What does God most want His people to understand about Him?

- He is the eternal God, the Source of all existence.
- He is unfailing love and absolute dependability.
- He freely, eagerly forgives sin,
- But He will never ignore sin.

A loving Father cannot ignore what threatens His children. Sin and all its fruits must be pursued and

destroyed.

This is the God we fear and love and serve.

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Father, when I begin to realize who You are,
Your lavish gifts are not enough.
I want to know You and please You and worship You.
I want to love You and walk with You and trust You every moment.
I want to live in You and for You and to You alone.

**Hymn: God Introduces Himself** 

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